

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 199964
ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY IO:PMBUNGE:FEJ

APPROVED BY IO:PMBUNGE

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O 230215Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 199964

PASS TO GERALD SUTTON FOR DEP ASST SEC GEORGE DALLEY

FOL RPT BRIDGETOWN 1979 ACTION USINFO WASHDC SECSTATE 19 AUG 77
QUOTE

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 1979

USINFO FOR ILA, IPS, IBS, IOP/M, IOP/USUN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, BB

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S TRIP

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPTION OF AMB YOUNG'S DEPARTURE
STATEMENT AT GRANTLEY ADAMS AIRPORT, BARBADOS, AUGUST 17, 1977,
FOLLOWED BY QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, AND A CLOSING
STATEMENT BY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER HENRY FORDE.

YOUNG: AS ALWAYS, WE HAD A VERY GOOD VISIT HERE IN BARBADOS. WE
HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW ACQUAINTANCES WITH MANY OLD FRIENDS,
TO SEE THE PROGRESS THAT'S BEEN MADE SINCE WE WERE HERE BEFORE,
AND ALSO TO DRAW INSPIRATION AND INSIGHT FROM SOME OF THE
VISION THAT THIS GOVT SHARES NOT ONLY FOR THIS ISLAND BUT
FOR THE ENTIRE CARIBBEAN REGION. AND I THINK THAT IT'S QUITE
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APPROPRIATE FOR US TO END HERE, FOR WHILE YOU THINK YOU HAVE
MANY, MANY PROBLEMS, IT SEEMS TO US THAT MAYBE YOU'VE GOT THEM
A LITTLE BETTER IN HAND THAN MOST, AND YOU AT LEAST HAVE DEMON-
STRATED THAT PROBLEMS CAN BE MANAGED IF YOU WORK AT THEM VERY
HARD. AND I THINK THAT'S GOING TO BE THE CONTINUED EXPERIENCE
OF THE PEOPLE OF BARBADOS. SO THANKS VERY MUCH, TAKE GOOD CARE
OF OUR AMBASSADOR HERE, AND WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOUR AMBASSADOR

IN NEW YORK AND BE SURE THAT WE GET TO SEE YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER WHEN HE COMES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Q: MR. AMBASSADOR, WHAT CAN WE EXPECT NOW THAT YOU'RE GOING BACK TO THE STATES AND YOU'RE GOING TO TALK TO YOUR GOVERNMENT, WHAT CAN WE EXPECT AS A RESULT OF THESE TALKS?

YOUNG: I THINK YOU CAN EXPECT A CONTINUATION OF U.S. INTEREST IN CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT. AND YOU CAN EXPECT THAT THE INPUT THAT CAME FROM YOUR GOVT WILL BECOME A PART OF THE THINKING THAT WE SHARE WITH OUR ADMINISTRATION, ALONG WITH THE OTHER NINE PLACES THAT WE VISITED. I SHOULD SAY THAT THERE WAS NOT A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFERENCE; THAT ESSENTIALLY PEOPLE DO BELIEVE THAT THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME FORM OF CARIBBEAN INTEGRATION, THAT THERE IS A GENUINE CONCERN ABOUT RELAXATION OF TRADE BARRIERS AND STABILIZATION OF COMMODITIES. AND THAT BASICALLY WE'RE A PART OF THE SAME HEMISPHERE AND ALL SHARE THE SAME PROBLEMS. THERE ARE NOT TOO MANY PROBLEMS THAT YOU FACE HERE IN BARBADOS THAT WE DON'T FACE IN THE U.S. MUCH BIGGER. AND IT'S OUR HOPE THAT AS A RESULT OF OUR TALKING ABOUT THINGS ON A REGIONAL BASIS, THAT WE'LL BEGIN TO APPROACH THEM ON A REGIONAL BASIS, AND MAYBE HAVE A BETTER OPPORTUNITY TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THEM.

Q: WHAT SORT OF FOLLOW ACTION CAN WE EXPECT NOW?

Y: WELL, WE HAD WITH US I THINK QUITE A TEAM OF PEOPLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FROM THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, FROM THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. EACH OF US WILL BE WRITING A REPORT AND WE'LL BE PUTTING THOSE REPORTS TOGETHER IN SOME WAY IN AN OVERALL RECOMMENDATION TO OUR GOVT. BUT WE

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ARE NOT THE GOVT; WE REPRESENT THE GOZ AND WE WILL HAVE TO TAKE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS WE HAVE TO THE CONGRESS OF THE U.S. AND TO THE ADMINISTRATION.

Q: IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY OF TELLING US ABOUT SOME OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS?

Y: WELL, THERE REALLY ISN'T MUCH TO TELL, AND I THINK ONE OF THE THINGS WE'VE BEEN VERY CONCERNED ABOUT IS THAT ANYBODY THINK THAT, YOU KNOW, THAT WE CAME DOWN WITH THE ANSWERS TO ANYBODY'S PROBLEMS. IN MANY RESPECTS, I THINK WE CAME DOWN SEEKING ANSWERS THAT YOU HAVE FOUND RELEVANT, AND WE'LL TAKE THOSE BACK AND SEE WHAT WE CAN DO WITH THEM.

Q: MR. YOUNG, YOU'RE GOING TO AFRICA SHORTLY. HOW MUCH HOPE ARE YOU HOLDING OUT FOR REACHING A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OUT THERE?

Y: WELL, WHEN YOU SAY "PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT," YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT RELATIVELY PEACEFUL. I MEAN, THERE'S ARMED STRUGGLE GOING ON, AND I THINK THAT OUR CONCERN IS THAT THERE NOT BE CONTINUED AND UNNECESSARY BLOODSHED. THERE'S A SITUATION NOW WAGING IN ZIMBABWE THAT NOBODY CAN WIN AS IT'S GOING NOW. THERE'S NO WAY IAN SMITH CAN WIN AND RETAIN POWER BY A WHITE MINORITY. BUT THERE ALSO SEEMS TO BE NO WAY, YOU KNOW, IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, THAT THE LIBERATION FORCES CAN WIN A MILITARY VICTORY

AND MARCH INTO SALISBURY AND TAKE OVER. AND WHAT SEEMS TO BE IN STORE IS ANOTHER SEVERAL MONTHS OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION. THAT'S TAKING QUITE A TOLL ON THE SURROUNDING NATIONS. I MEAN, YOU TALK ABOUT DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS HERE, BUT ZAMBIA HAS GOT THOSE SAME DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS AND HAS BEEN SUPPORTING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS FOR FIFTEEN YEARS IN ADDITION TO TRYING TO DEAL WITH THEIR OWN PROBLEMS. MOZAMBIQUE HAS LOST MORE PEOPLE IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST RHODESIA THAN THEY LOST IN THEIR ENTIRE DECADE OF FIGHTING AGAINST THE PORTUGUESE. THERE'S A TERRIBLE TOLL OF BLOODSHED AND SUFFERING I THINK BEING UNNECESSARILY WAGED. AND WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO IS PROVIDE DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC PRESURES TO THE SITUATION TO SEE IF WE CAN'T CUT THAT PROCESS SHORT AND HAVE MAJORITY RULE UNDER FREE ELECTIONS AND A NEW GOVT TAKEOVER THAT ENABLE BLACKS AND WHITES TO LIVE TOGETHER IN A RE-

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LATIONSHIP OF JUSTICE, RATHER THAN IN A RELATIONSHIP OF OPPRESSION.

Q: WHAT WILL BE NEW ABOUT THE PROPOSALS YOU'RE TAKING TO AFRICA THIS TIME AROUND?

Y: WELL, THE THING IS THAT I'M NOT TAKING THEM TO AFRICA, THAT ESSENTIALLY THE PROPOSALS WE'LL BE DISCUSSING WILL BE PROPOSALS THAT PRESIDENT NYRERE OF TANZANIA BROUGHT FROM AFRICA TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND THAT THEY AGREED ON. AND I THINK WHAT WE WILL BE DOING IS ATTEMPTING TO EXTEND THAT LEVEL OF AGREEMENT TO THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, TO THE FRONT LINE STATES, AND ALSO TO ZIMBABWE AND SOUTH AFRICA.

Q: WHAT ARE THE MAIN POINTS OF THOSE PROPOSALS?

Y: I THINK SECRETARY VANCE WOULD HAVE TO RELEASE THOSE FROM WASHINGTON. OK? THANK YOU.

FORDE: MAY I JUST BRIEFLY ON BEHALF OF THE GOVT OF BARBADOS SAY THAT WE APPRECIATED YOUR VISIT HERE. AS I SAID AT THE BEGINNING, IT WAS A SYMBOL OF THE NEW CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S INTEREST IN THE CARIBBEAN. OUR TALKS WERE FRIENDLY, AND I BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE NO DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN US THAT ARE NOT CAPABLE OF SOLUTION. SOME OF YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CARIBBEAN AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN ARE SUGGESTIONS THAT WE WILL PURSUE IN COMMON WITH YOU. I THINK BOTH YOUR WIFE, YOUR CHARMING WIFE, AND YOURSELF WOULD HAVE WITNESSED THE SPONTANEITY OF THE WELCOME OF THE ORDINARY MAN IN THE STREET IN BARBADOS, AND THIS IS A SIGN OF LOVE NOT ONLY FOR YOURSELVES, ALTHOUGH TO A GREAT EXTENT IT'S YOUR PERSONAL CHARM THAT'S CONTRIBUTED TO THIS, BUT THE WAY IN WHICH WE HOLD THE U.S. OF A. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT ON THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AS YOU KNOW I FEEL, AS I SAID BEFORE, VERY STRONGLY ON THIS ISSUE, AND I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE GOVT OF BARBADOS WILL SHORTLY BE RATIFYING THE INTERAMERICAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. I WOULD LIKE YOU ALSO TO KNOW THAT WE WELCOME THE SETTLEMENT IN PANAMA, AND I HOPE THAT THE CONGRESS OF THE U.S. WILL REACT

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FAVORABLY TO THIS SETTLEMENT. IT HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE CARIB-
BEAN NATIONS IN PARTICULAR, AND I AM SURE THAT IT WILL HELP IN
ANY PROBLEMS THAT WE MAY HAVE IN OUR OWN SETTLEMENT. I WOULDN'T
LIKE THE PRESS TO BELIEVE THAT WE'VE ASKED FOR WHAT PANAMA HAS
ASKED FOR. WE WOULDN'T MIND IF WE GET IT, BUT WE KNOW IT WOULD
BE A BIT UNREALISTIC. (LAUGHTER.) WELL, I THOUGHT I SHOULD TAKE
THE OPPORTUNITY TO CLARIFY THIS. ON BEHALF OF THE GOVT I
SHOULD LIKE TO PRESENT TO YOU A SMALL MEMENTO FOR OUR VISIT,
AND ANDY, WE ARE GOING TO GIVE YOU A SYMBOLIC FOURTEEN-YEAR-
OLD COCKSPUR RUM. THERE'S A LITTLE BITMORE ON BOARD FOR YOU.
I TRUST THAT YOU WON'T GET BEFORE YOU GET TO AFRICA.
(LAUGHTERM), BUT YOU MAY FIND THAT IT CAN GET THE FRONT LINE
STATES AND IAN SMITH..
Y: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE199964
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PMBUNGE:FEJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770303-0591
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770833/aaaabbfk.tel
Line Count: 192
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 23ccde55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1515267
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S TRIP FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPTION OF AMB YOUNG'S DEPARTURE STATEMENT AT GRANTLEY ADAMS AIRPORT, BARBADOS, AUG
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, BB, US, (YOUNG, ANDREW)
To: QUITO
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/23ccde55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009